

Amphill Rural District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

for the

YEAR 1961

of the

*Medical Officer of Health*

and of the

*Public Health Inspector*

A. R. DARLOW, T.D., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.T.M. & H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

W. J. FOLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE AMPHILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1961. Some other matters are included so that the Report may act as a reference book for the medical services.

The vital statistics for the year appear very satisfactory. These are commented upon in the text.

Progress on the two major sewerage schemes continued satisfactorily.

Provision of houses was somewhat less than in previous years.

Legislation came into effect in November, 1960 which allows closer control of caravan sites.

I am grateful to you Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Council for the active help you have shown in the work of my Department during the year. Of my colleagues, I must pay special thanks for their help to Mr. Armour, Mr. Foley and Mr. Daniel.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

A. R. DARLOW

November, 1962.

*Medical Officer of Health*

# Amphill Rural District Council

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for 1961

### 1. OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :—

*Medical Officer of Health:* A. R. DARLOW, T.D., M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.C.H.,  
D.T.M. & H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector :* W. J. FOLEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Additional Public Health Inspector :* L. DANIEL, M.A.P.H.I.

### 2. GENERAL STATISTICS RELATING TO THE DISTRICT :—

Area . . . . .	62,553 acres
Population :—	
Census for 1951 . . . . .	22,921
Registrar General's estimate of home population mid-year 1961 . .	26,190
Number of inhabited houses . . . . .	8,750
Rateable value . . . . .	£297,571
Sum represented by a Penny Rate . . . . .	£1,180

### 3. SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA :—

From a scenic point of view the district as a whole is one of the most attractive and beautiful areas in Bedfordshire and as yet unspoiled by large industrial development.

The principal employers in the North and West are the brickworks at Lidlington and Ridgmont, with Stewartby just inside the Bedford Rural District. There are also light engineering factories at Cranfield and Aspley Guise. Other large places of employment are the Ebonite Works at Houghton Conquest, a brush works at Flitwick, and a tool factory at Westoning. The Aeronautical College at Cranfield and the National Institute of Agricultural Engineering at Silsoe have greatly added to the status of these villages while the growth of Lower Stondon is largely due to the R.A.F. Aerodrome and Training Centre at Henlow Camp.

Flitwick, served by a main railway, is largely a dormitory area for Luton and Bedford where many are employed in the factories and offices of these large towns.

Intensive market gardening is the principal occupation in the light sandy soil around Maulden, Flitwick, Flitton and Clophill and agriculture affords the greater part of employment within the district.

Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath and Woburn are mainly residential in character.

#### 4. VITAL STATISTICS.

							Males	Females	Total
<i>Live Births</i> —Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	208	230	438
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	10	15
Total							213	240	453

Crude Birth Rate .. .. 17.3 per 1,000 home population

Adjusted Birth Rate .. .. 17.1 do.

(The comparability factor for the District being 0.99)

As compared with :—

Average of last 5 years .. .. 15.3 per 1,000 home population

Rate for Bedfordshire .. .. 19.9 do.

Rate for England & Wales .. .. 17.4 do.

							Males	Females	Total
<i>Still Births</i> —Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Total							6	4	10

Still Birth Rate .. .. 21.6 per 1,000 live and still births

As compared with :—

Average of last 5 years .. .. 21.9 do.

Rate for Bedfordshire .. .. 18.7 do.

Rate for England & Wales .. .. 18.7 do.

#### *Deaths—*

							Males	Females	Total
Deaths in the District	..	..	..	..	..	..	94	105	199
Transferred into District	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	45	105
Transferred from District	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	10	18
Total							146	140	286

Crude Death Rate .. .. 10.9 per 1,000 home population

Adjusted Death Rate .. .. 10.5 do.

(The comparability factor for the District being 0.95)

As compared with :—

Average of last 5 years .. .. 11.2 per 1,000 home population

Rate for Bedfordshire .. .. 10.7 do.

Rate for England & Wales .. .. 12.0 do.

#### *Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—*

							Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	3	7
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Total							4	3	7

Infant Mortality Rate .. .. 15.5 per 1,000 related live births

As compared with :—

Average of last 5 years .. .. 19.7 do.

Rate for Bedfordshire .. .. 18.7 do.

Rate for England & Wales .. .. 21.4 do.

*Deaths connected with Childbirth—*

Maternal Mortality .. .. Nil.

As compared with :—

Average of last 5 years .. .. 1.04 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

Rate for Bedfordshire .. .. 0.37 do.

Rate for England & Wales .. .. 0.33 do.

The vital statistics for the year are satisfactory but great care must be taken in interpreting them because a few births or deaths either way considerably alter the ratios. Nevertheless, it is pleasing to note from the figures shown an improvement on last year.

## PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES							TOTAL	
							MALE	FEMALE
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
4	Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
8	Measles	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
0	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
1	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	..	..	..	..	..	14	1
2	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	..	—	6
3	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
4	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	..	11	8
5	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
6	Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
7	Vascular lesions of nervous systems	..	..	..	..	..	18	41
8	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	..	..	31	20
9	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
0	Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	23	20
1	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	9	4
2	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
3	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	9	8
4	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	7	5
5	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	3	1
6	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
7	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
8	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
9	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
0	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
1	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
2	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	8	11
3	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	4	1
4	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	1	4
5	Suicides	..	..	..	..	..	3	—
6	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
All causes							146	140

## CAUSE OF DEATH IN INFANTS

Birth injury	..	..	..	..	..	2
Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	4
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	1

## 5. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PROVIDED BY THE NORTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD :

### *General Hospitals:—*

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing, Kempston Road, Bedford.  
 Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.  
 The Luton and Dunstable Hospital, Luton.  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Luton.

### *Infectious Disease Hospital:—*

Spittlesea Isolation Hospital, Spittlesea, nr. Luton, Beds.

### *Chest Clinics (for Pulmonary Tuberculosis):—*

Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Luton.

### *Venereal Disease Clinics:—*

Bedford General Hospital, South Wing:  
 Wednesday, 5—7 p.m., Friday, 3—5 p.m.  
 St. Mary's Hospital, Luton:  
 Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.—7 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m.—12 noon.

PROVIDED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

### *Bacteriological Laboratories:—*

Public Health Laboratory, Lewsey Road, Luton.  
 Bedford General Hospital, North Wing, Kimbolton Road, Bedford.

PROVIDED BY THE BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

### *Ambulance Service:—*

The service provided by the Bedfordshire County Council has satisfactorily met the needs of the area. It covers the full 24 hours, and is free of charge.

In addition to moving emergency cases, ambulance or sitting case car transport available for carrying patients unable to travel by other means to and from Hospitals and Clinics, when attendance is necessary for the purpose of receiving medical treatment.

Except in the case of an emergency, the request for an ambulance must be made to a Medical Practitioner or other authorised person. This should be to the nearest depot.

The service now also covers the removal to isolation hospitals of patients suffering from infectious disease.

Depots are situated as follows :—

Telephone :

#### BEDFORD

Bedford Road, Kempston.

Bedford 53

#### AMPTHILL

14 Dunstable Street.

Amptill 33



BIGGLESWADE

Crab Lane

Biggleswade 2295

DUNSTABLE

High Street, North

Dunstable 62761

LUTON

Leicester Road

Luton 52600 & 51871

LINSLADE (Bucks. County Council)

10 New Road

Leighton Buzzard 3332

*Domestic Nursing and Midwifery Service :—*

This Service is administered by the North East Divisional Committee.

The nurses employed are :—

Aspley Guise (Burrow's Close only)

Mrs. E. B. Price.

Aspley Heath, Battlesden, Eversholt,

Tel.: Woburn Sands 2198.

Flitton Bryan, Potsgrove, Tingrith, Woburn.

Aspley Guise (except Burrow's Close),

Mrs. E. H. Sagers (retires 31st  
Aug., 1962).

Husborne Crawley, Ridgmont.

Tel.: Woburn Sands 3351.

Gravenhurst, Higham Gobion, Shillington, Silsoe.

Miss S. P. Green.

Millbrook.

Tel.: Hexton 246.

Clophill, Haynes (part), Maulden.

Mrs. L. E. Stockbridge.

Tel.: Amptill 2261.

Flitwick, Steppingley, Flitton and Greenfield.

Mrs. C. Wagstaff.

Tel.: Amptill 2182.

Cranfield, Hulcote and Salford, Lidlington.

Mrs. B. M. Chinnock.

Tel.: Flitwick 276.

Marston Morteyne.

Miss M. Rubin.

Tel.: Cranfield 394.

Houghton Conquest (midwifery only).

Miss P. Storr.

Tel.: Bedford 5725.

Houghton Conquest (general nursing only).

Miss F. K. Patton.

Tel.: Kempston 2079.

Westoning, Harlington, Pulloxhill.

Mrs. N. F. B. Pirie.

Tel.: Bedford 67142.

Miss J. C. Butcher (retires 31st  
Oct., 1962.)

Tel.: Toddington 298.

Mrs. H. Wilkinson from 1st Nov.  
1962. Tel.: Toddington 472.

*Health Visiting Service :—*

Houghton Conquest, Haynes, Maulden, Clophill,  
Westoning and Harlington

Mrs. Groom

Cranfield, Marston Morteyne, Millbrook

Miss Maberly

Hulcote and Salford, Lidlington, Aspley Guise, Husborne  
Crawley, Ridgmont, Steppingley, Flitwick, Aspley Heath,  
Woburn, Eversholt, Tingrith, Potsgrove, Milton Bryan, Battlesden  
Shillington, Gravenhurst, Higham Gobion

Miss French

Silsoe, Flitton, Pulloxhill

Miss Green

(part-time) Mrs. B. Smith

*Home Help Service :—*

ORGANISER: Mrs. V. M. Van Berckeleir, Union Street Clinic, Bedford.  
Tel. Bedford 2207.

### *Child Welfare Clinics :—*

Aspley Guise—Parish Hall, Tuesday p.m. fortnightly.  
Crophill—Methodist Schoolroom, Tuesday p.m. every four weeks.  
Cranfield—Memorial Hall, Tuesday p.m. fortnightly.  
Cranfield College—Wednesday p.m. every four weeks.  
Flitwick—Village Hall, Friday p.m. weekly.  
Haynes—Church Hall, Thursday p.m. fortnightly.  
Houghton Conquest—Village Hall, Monday p.m. every four weeks.  
Lidlington—Parish Hall, Wednesday p.m. fortnightly.  
Marston Moreteyne—Jubilee Hall, Thursday p.m. fortnightly.  
Marston Shelton—Methodist Schoolroom, Thursday p.m. fortnightly.  
Maulden—Church Hall, Thursday p.m. fortnightly.  
Ridgmont—Village Hall, Thursday p.m. fortnightly.  
Shillington—Congregational Schoolroom, Wednesday p.m. fortnightly.  
Westoning—Old School Hall, Wednesday p.m. fortnightly.  
Woburn—Town Hall, Wednesday p.m. fortnightly.

### *School Clinics :—*

Union Street, Bedford.

Child Guidance..	..	..	..	..	4 sessions weekly
Dental (2 surgeries)	..	..	..	..	sessions as required
Orthoptic	..	..	..	..	8 sessions weekly
St. Speech therapy	..	..	..	..	3 sessions weekly

## 6. LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

### BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS :—

Building Byelaws.  
Slaughter Houses.

Water Regulations and Charges.  
Sale and delivery of food.

## 7. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### (a) WATER SUPPLY

Revised total of new mains laid since 1946 is as follows:— 3-in.—25,071 yards, 4-in.—9,677 yards, 6-in.—12,009 yards, 9-in.—6,500 yards, 10-in.—800 yards.

During the year, new mains have been laid to serve new housing estates at Flitwick, Harlington, Silsoe and Lower Stondon. A new main of larger diameter has also been laid to improve the supply to Potsgrove.

A small booster plant has been provided at Lidlington, which should improve the supply to the higher levels.

No serious difficulties were experienced in maintaining satisfactory supplies to all parts of the district during the year.

## PULLOXHILL WATERWORKS

(Chemical results in parts per million)

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Turbidity : Nil.

Odour : Nil.

Free Carbon Dioxide : 8.

Total Solids : 300.

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate : 145.

Nitrate Nitrogen : 0.0.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen : 0.000.

Albuminoid Nitrogen : 0.000.

Metals: Iron—0.04, other metals absent.

Colour : Nil.

pH : 7.5.

Electric Conductivity : 290.

Chlorine present as Chloride : 17.

Hardness : Total 195.

Carbonate : 145. Non-carbonate : 50.

Nitrite Nitrogen : Absent.

Oxygen absorbed : 0.15.

Residual Chlorine : 0.05.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, just on the alkaline side of neutrality and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is moderately hard in character, contains no excess of mineral constituents and it is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analysis the results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

## BIRCHMOOR PUMPING STATION. ASPLEY GUISE.

(Chemical results in parts per million)

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Colour: Less than 5.

pH: 6.9.

Chlorine present as Chloride: 21.

Hardness: Total 105. Carbonate: 50, Non-carbonate: 55.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 4.96.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: Nil.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: Nil.

Iron: Absent.

Turbidity: Less than 1.

Odour: Less than 5.

Free Carbon Dioxide: 7.

Total Solids dried at 180°C.: 153.

Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate: 50.

Nitrite Nitrogen: Absent.

Oxygen Absorbed: 0.05.

Residual Chlorine: Very slight trace.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is fairly soft in character and it contains no excess of mineral constituents in solution. It is of very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspects of the chemical analysis these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTING.

Tests from all public supplies are taken regularly and have proved satisfactory throughout the year.

The number of houses in the district which are not connected to the public water supply has been steadily reduced in recent years and there are now only 93 not so connected (1.1 per cent). These properties, which are generally in outlying areas, are supplied in all cases by shallow wells. Recent tests carried out have indicated that in the majority of cases the water in these wells is contaminated, and owners have been advised to connect up to the main supply, and where this is not possible to boil all water before use.

The slum clearance scheme has helped to reduce the number as a proper water supply is one of the factors in determining the fitness of a house for human habitation.

PARTICULARS OF NUMBER OF DWELLING HOUSES AND  
POPULATION WITH PIPED SUPPLY.

PARISH	POPULATION (CENSUS 1961)	NUMBER OF HOUSES	SUPPLIED BY MAINS DIRECT	SUPPLIED BY STANDPIPE
Aspley Guise .. .. .	1923	631	626	5
Aspley Heath .. .. .	358	133	130	3
Battlesden .. .. .	55	17	13	2
Clophill .. .. .	1054	344	266	66
Cranfield .. .. .	2325	745	687	50
Eversholt .. .. .	449	167	147	20
Flitton (including Greenfield) ..	571	264	225	31
Flitwick .. .. .	3608	1322	1309	13
Gravenhurst .. .. .	475	168	150	15
Harlington .. .. .	862	352	346	5
Haynes .. .. .	803	299	256	42
Higham Gobion .. .. .	28	7	6	—
Hulcote and Salford .. .. .	204	69	63	4
Houghton Conquest .. .. .	873	304	270	34
Husborne Crawley .. .. .	382	102	83	17
Lidlington .. .. .	915	293	199	36
Marston Moreteyne .. .. .	1789	553	466	75
Maulden .. .. .	1617	565	473	76
Millbrook .. .. .	144	54	51	2
Milton Bryan .. .. .	138	53	42	11
Potsgrove .. .. .	68	21	18	3
Pulloxhill .. .. .	648	200	177	14
Ridgmont (including Brogborough)	807	275	235	32
Shillington (including Lower Stondon)	2788	888	773	107
Silsoe .. .. .	680	248	219	26
Steppingley .. .. .	244	64	47	13
Tingrith .. .. .	122	47	45	2
Westoning .. .. .	792	262	244	15
Woburn .. .. .	845	303	284	18
	25567	8750	7850	739

# RAINFALL.

1961 MONTH	TOTAL INCHES	GREATEST RAINFALL IN 24 HOURS		NO. OF DAYS WITH .01 "	NO. OF DAYS WITH .04 "
		INCHES	DATE	OR MORE	OR MORE
Pulloxhill Pumping Station—					
January .. ..	2.19	0.42	28th	17	12
February .. ..	2.32	0.50	27th	14	14
March .. .. .	0.09	0.03	31st	5	—
April .. .. .	2.03	0.30	25th	19	15
May .. .. .	0.85	0.41	4th	7	4
June .. .. .	0.79	0.56	12th	6	2
July .. .. .	1.01	0.21	12th & 13th	7	7
August .. .. .	1.96	0.50	10th	17	14
September .. ..	1.27	0.50	13th	12	9
October .. .. .	2.73	0.49	24th	19	14
November .. ..	1.46	0.43	10th	14	9
December .. ..	3.45	0.75	29th	17	13
	20.15				
Wrest Park, Silsoe:—					
January .. .. .	1.82	0.34	28th	17	12
February .. .. .	2.24	0.48	27th	15	14
March .. .. .	0.12	0.07	30th	4	1
April .. .. .	1.97	0.30	27th	20	14
May .. .. .	0.73	0.31	3rd	7	4
June .. .. .	0.99	0.75	12th	6	4
July .. .. .	0.95	0.38	12th	8	6
August .. .. .	1.67	0.40	4th & 10th	16	9
September .. ..	2.22	0.80	13th	13	9
October .. .. .	2.44	0.51	19th	20	12
November .. ..	1.57	0.64	10th	10	9
December .. ..	3.34	0.62	31st	14	12
	20.06				

## RAINFALL IN PREVIOUS 10 YEARS.

Year.	Woburn.	England & Wales.
1951	30.56	43.6
1952	26.31	35.5
1953	18.16	29.9
1954	30.27	42.7
1955	24.77	31.3
1956	24.77	35.2
	<b>Pulloxhill</b>	
1957	24.13	35.7
1958	30.05	41.6
1959	18.56	32.0
1960	31.02	35.6

(b) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Construction of the Cranfield and Marston Sewerage Scheme has proceeded satisfactorily and work was commenced on a similar scheme for Clophill, Maulden and Silsoe.

Schemes have been prepared during the year for Lidlington and Houghton Conquest.

Aspley Guise and Aspley Heath are drained to the Aspley Guise Sewage Disposal Works which is jointly owned by this Council and Newport Pagnell Rural District Council.

(c) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary.

(d) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

6 Parishes, Aspley Guise, Aspley Heath, Woburn, Flitwick, Harlington and Westoning except for outlying properties, have water closets and are on main drainage.

In the remaining 23 Parishes, 2,961 houses have W.C.'s draining to either cesspool or sewage disposal plants, and 2,852 houses have pail closets.

On the new housing estates practically all Council Houses have water closets, and where the estates are sufficiently large, suitable disposal works are provided, elsewhere they have cesspool drainage.

(e) CLEANSING.

During the year this Department took over complete control of the Council's Cleansing Services.

(i) *Pail collection and cesspool emptying services.*

Emptying of closet pails has only been possible once a week.

There are 2,305 houses with cesspools. These are emptied at three-monthly intervals free of charge with intermittent emptyings at a cost of 25/- per emptying.

This service has been kept going only with the greatest difficulty. In these days of affluence it will be understood that it is almost impossible to get labour for this job. Over time has been worked regularly and in addition it has been necessary to employ outside contractors.

Disposal of the cesspool contents has also presented a serious problem. It has been possible to spray some of it on agricultural land and the rest of it has been deposited in gravel pits in isolated parts of the district.

Despite this, new houses continue to be built with cesspools and would-be purchasers would be well advised to consider the implications.

(ii) *Refuse collection.*

In order to maintain the fortnightly schedules of refuse collection, it has been found necessary to transfer labour from the pail collecting and cesspool emptying vehicles, and also to work overtime. A small spare vehicle loaned by the Surveyors Department had to be used frequently.

With the steady increase in population and new building, it will become necessary to consider the provision of a third large vehicle and additional labour, if the present frequency of collection is to be maintained, throughout the district.

(f) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE :—

*Public Health Act :—*

Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Where nuisances were found	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disinfestations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Caravans	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Specimens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cleansing	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pig Sties	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Water Samples	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Places of Entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enterovirus Survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



*Housing Acts :—*

House to House Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	454
Preliminary Surveys	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	187
House Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Revisits .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	108
Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Rent Act 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4

*Food and Drugs Acts :—*

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Butcher's Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	78
Milk Distributors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	643
Inspection of Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0
Mobile Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9

*Factories Act :—*

Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
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*Prevention of Damage by Pest Act 1949 :—*

Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47
Miscellaneous Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	131
Inspections of Council Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	592

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2,986

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The following is a summary of nuisances and defects reported on during the year :—

Premises with defective closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
" " " walls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
" " " drainage	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
" " " walls and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
" " " floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
" " " roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
" " " chimney stacks and fireplaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
" " " guttering and downpipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
" " " doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
" " " windows	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
" " " sinks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
" " " stairs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
" " " unwholesome water supply	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
" " " nuisance from rats and mice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	230
" " " offensive accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Number of defective premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
" " cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

NOTICES :—

							<i>Served.</i>	<i>Completed.</i>	<i>Outstdg.</i>
Number of Statutory Notices served under the Housing									
Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5	—
Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	—
Number of informal Notices served under the Housing									
Act, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	—
Public Health Act, 1936	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	21	9
Food and Drugs Act 1955	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	3
Factories Act, 1937	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	—

*Rent Act 1957* :—

Number of Disrepair Certificates	..	..	..	1	—	1
Number of Intentions to Serve	..	..	..	—	—	—

(g) SHOPS AND PREMISES.

Four lock-up shops have certificates of exemption under Section 38 (2) and (6) of the Shops Act 1950, sanitary conveniences being available within a reasonable distance.

(h) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

(a) Public. No swimming pools are owned by this Authority.

(b) Private owned and open to the public:—

EVERSHOLT.—This bath has been completely modernised and is now provided with an efficient chlorinating plant. A series of samples taken during the season has shown that the plant is working satisfactorily.

(c) Private Swimming Pools.

HAWNES SCHOOL, HAYNES PARK.—An open-air pool is provided for this girls' boarding school. A natural spring gives the pool a continuous flow.

THE KNOLL SCHOOL, ASPLEY HEATH.—A similar boarding school for boys, this has a small pool filled from the main water supply. It is periodically emptied and refilled.

(i) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No report of bug infestation was received during the year.

Inspection is made of the furniture of a prospective tenant to ensure that it is free from vermin before removal to a Council House.

Disinfestation is carried out by the local authority.

Prevention of re-infestation after cleansing is secured by re-inspection, advice and supervision.

(j) RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's sewers, sewage disposal plants, sewer ditches and refuse tips are systematically treated.

The Council gives a free service to domestic premises, and occupiers in the main make good use of this facility. The need for reporting the slightest infestation of these disease-carrying vermin cannot be overstressed. A flat rate charge of 6s. 0d. per hour of the Operative's time is made to the occupiers of business premises. This flat rate includes wages, travelling expenses and cost of poison and bait.

During the year the following inspections and revisits have been carried out and treatments given where necessary:—

1,684 Domestic Properties; 38 Business Premises; 1,036 Council Properties (excluding Council Houses); 1,287 Sewer Ditches and 84 Surveys of Agricultural Properties. Total 4,125



## 8. HOUSING.

### *Housing of the Elderly.*

The scheme at "Dengarth," renamed "Robinson House," in Steppingley Road, Flitwick, was completed during the year. All the tenants of the 22 bungalows are in receipt of a pension and were specially selected as tenants.

There is a well appointed Communal Room in Robinson House and provision is made to accommodate tenants' visitors for short periods. A Warden has been appointed and he can be contacted in emergencies by individual tenants by means of a warning system installed in each bungalow.

It is understood that this scheme is the first to be carried out by a Rural District Council in the County and the Council can be rightly proud of this new venture.

### *Improvement Grants.*

These were restricted during the year for economic reasons.

### *Loans for Owner Occupiers.*

This scheme was in suspense for the greater part of the year, because of the national economic position.

### *Housing Management.*

The Council now has 1,737 units of accommodation and also owns 20 other houses.

The building programme was mainly restricted to the provision of one-bedroomed bungalows. It is expected that the building of larger bungalows and three-bedroomed houses will re-commence.

A considerable problem is presented by the large numbers of families having to live in condemned cottages. Where possible they have been re-housed to prevent families breaking up. In this work there has been close collaboration with the staff of the County Welfare Service.

The Council is always willing to assist and encourage exchanges of houses both with private landlords and other Councils. This year the following exchanges have been made:—

With Council tenants within the district	..	..	..	..	..	1
With Council house tenants outside the district	..	..	..	..	..	2

### *Slum Clearance Programme.*

During the year under review the Council in dealing with unfit houses included in the Slum Clearance Programme made 8 Demolition Orders and 1 Closing Order. Owners were prepared to give Informal Undertakings to demolish in 10 cases and these were accepted by the Council.

20 tenants were rehoused from Slum Clearance Properties during the year.

At the end of 1961 out of 229 properties on the first Slum Clearance Programme, 101 properties have been the subject of action by the Council. In addition 46 Informal Undertakings have been accepted, 37 properties have been demolished voluntarily and a further 33 properties have been reconditioned. This leaves some 12 properties of which several are derelict and the owners of others have verbally agreed not to relet the properties on becoming vacant.

## 9. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### *a) SLAUGHTERHOUSES.*

There were 5 licensed slaughterhouses in use during the year.

There were 21 slaughtermen licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933-54, at the beginning of the year.

## (b) MEAT INSPECTION.

Total number of animals slaughtered and inspected—4,094.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part :—

	Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses
Number killed .. .. .	725	6	74	2302	987	—
Number inspected .. .. .	725	6	74	2302	987	—
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>						
Whole carcases condemned .. .. .	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	30	—	1	24	38	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	4.13%	16.66%	1.35%	1.04%	3.85%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcases condemned .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	1	—	—	—	7	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	0.13%	—	—	—	0.70%	—
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. .. .	2	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .. .. .	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected by cysticercosis	0.27%	—	—	0.04%	—	—

### *Details of parts found unsound :—*

1 Beast Head (Tuberculosis)	7 Pig Heads (Tuberculosis)
16 Beast Livers (Flukes)	14 Pig Livers (Milk Spot)
1 Beast Liver (Cirrhosis)	15 Pig Hearts (Pericarditis)
8 Beast Livers (Abscesses)	3 Pig Livers (Necrosis)
1 Beast Liver (Hydatid Cysts)	1 Pig Liver (Cirrhosis)
1 Beast Liver (Necrosis)	1 Pig Liver (Telangiectasis)
2 Beast Livers (Cavernous Angioma)	4 Pig Lungs (Pneumonia)
1 Beast Tongue (Actinomycosis)	2 Pig Kidneys (Cysts)
1 Beast Heart (C. Bovis)	2 Pig Kidneys (Pyelonephritis)
1 Beast Head (C. Bovis)	21 Sheep Livers (Flukes)
1 Beast Kidney (Nephritis)	1 Sheep Liver (Cysts)
1 Beast Thick Skirt (Abscesses)	1 Sheep Liver (Parasitic)
1 Calf Heart (Pericarditis)	1 Sheep Lungs (Pneumonia)
1 Cow complete with Offal (Emaciation)	1 Sheep Heart (C. Ovis)

## (c) FOODS CONDEMNED.

15 tins Meat, 20 tins Vegetables, 46 tins Fruit, 12 tins Milk, 1 tin Syrup, 9 tins Fish, tin Cream, 2 pkts. Cereals, 4 jars Preserves, 5 tins Dessert, 2 tins Soup, 2 jars Pickles, 30lb Currants, 38lb. Frozen Pig Kidneys, 12 Sausage Rolls, 25 Bread Rolls.

### *Disposal of Condemned Food.*

All condemned meat is stained before removal from slaughterhouses and processed for animal feeding purposes or buried under supervision.

Other condemned foods are removed and buried on the Council refuse tips under supervision.

(d) HYGIENE OF FOOD PREMISES.

Number and type of food premises :—

Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Cafes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
School Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23
Works Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91
										<hr/> 262 <hr/>

Registered premises, under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 :

Number of Shops registered for the sale of Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	78
Number of Licensed Premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	25
Number of Premises registered for the manufacture of Preserved Meats	..	..	..	..	13

*Inspections of Registered Food Premises.*

84 Inspections of registered ice cream premises have been carried out during the year.

The standard of hygiene of these premises is very good and frequent visiting was found to be unnecessary.

With reference to the Ice Cream (heat treatment, etc.) Regulations 1959, there are no manufacturing premises within the district and with the exception of two registered premises all retail pre-packed ice cream.

14 Inspections of registered preserved meat premises have been carried out during the year, revisits being made as necessary.

The standard of hygiene of these premises has improved considerably and is now satisfactory.

*Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.*

Visits were made during the year to the majority of food premises, several unsatisfactory ones being re-visited more than once.

At the end of the year out of 141 General Food Shops 129 were satisfactory, this being a slight improvement on the previous year. Out of 91 Licensed Premises 69 were now found to be satisfactory, this being an overall increase of 2 over the previous year. The rate of progress of conversions of licensed premises within the district is still very slow.

(e) MILK

*Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.*

This is now administered by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority.

10. SANITATION IN SCHOOLS.

No progress was made to report in school sanitation although it is planned that some schools will be connected to the sewers which are now being constructed.

# 11. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

## Notifications by Age Groups.

DISEASE			UNDER 5	5—15	OVER 15	TOTAL	REMOVED TO HOSPITAL
Scarlet Fever	..	..	2	7	2	11	..
Measles	..	..	120	121	6	247	..
Whooping Cough	..	..	4	6	1	11	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	3	3	..
Infective Hepatitis	..	..	..	2	7	9	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	1	1	..

# NOTIFICATION BY PARISHES.

PARISH	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Infective Hepatitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Poliomyelitis	Paratyphoid Fever	Encephalitis	Salmonella Typhi
Aspley Guise ..	28	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Aspley Heath ..	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Arnsfield ..	28	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Barlton ..	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barlton ..	24	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Bartholomew ..	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barlton ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Boughton Conquest	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bosborne Crawley	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bradlington ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Bower Stondon..	30	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burston Moreteyne	73	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton Bryan ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	5	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	13	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Burton ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	247	11	11	..	..	..	..	3	9	1	..	..	..	..

The above Tables depend for their accuracy on returns made by general practitioners. As diseases such as scarlet fever, have lost their severity, they are by no means reported in full but the Tables are a guide to the incidence. Important diseases, such as poliomyelitis or diphtheria are still reported fully and it is pleasing to note the absence of the more dangerous diseases.

# TUBERCULOSIS IN AGE GROUPS.

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1 year to 5 years .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5 years to 15 years .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 years to 35 years .. ..	2+3*	1+1*	1	..	..	..	..	..
35 years to 65 years .. ..	1*	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Over 65 .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	3+4*	3+1*	1	—	—	1	—	—

## NUMBER ON REGISTER AT END OF YEAR.

PULMONARY :—

NON-PULMONARY :—

59 males, 44 females.

8 males, 11 females.

## TUBERCULOSIS IN PARISHES.

Parish.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Aspley Guise .. ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Aspley Heath .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Flitwick .. ..	1+2*	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Harlington .. ..	..	1*	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hulcote and Salford .. ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Lower Stondon .. ..	1*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marston .. ..	1+1*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maulden .. ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	3+4*	3+1*	1	—	—	1	..	..

\*Transferred from another district.

## DEATH RATE PER 100,000 OF THE POPULATION.

(Respiratory Tuberculosis)

This District : 3.8. Bedfordshire : 3.1. England and Wales : 6.5.

# INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS

1913—1961

Year				New Cases		Deaths	
				Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
913—14	..	..	..	21.0	3.4	5.2	0.8
915—19	..	..	..	25.8	4.8	15.0	5.8
920—24	..	..	..	24.4	7.2	15.0	6.2
925—29	..	..	..	29.4	8.8	11.8	2.4
930—34	Average	..	..	12.8	4.2	9.8	2.2
935—39		..	..	9.0	4.2	8.6	2.4
940—44		..	..	8.2	4.0	6.2	1.6
945—49		..	..	15.8	3.2	6.4	0.8
950—54	..	..	..	17.6	3.8	1.2	0.4
955	..	..	..	12	4	2	—
956	..	..	..	8	2	1	1
957	..	..	..	1	2	—	—
958	..	..	..	10	2	1	1
959	..	..	..	7	4	1	—
960	..	..	..	16	6	2	—
961	..	..	..	6	1	1	—

The total number of cases of tuberculosis is small but otherwise no information can be gained from a comparison of the figures.



## MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited Ampthill during the year when a total of 8 people were X-rayed. Some of this number no doubt came from the Rural District.

A mobile Unit visits The Sands, Woburn Street, Ampthill once a week for half-an-hour and during this time patients sent by their doctors can quickly be X-rayed.

## 12. IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Vaccination against anterior poliomyelitis, whooping cough and diphtheria, is the responsibility of the County Council and has been carried out at child welfare clinics and the schools.

There were no cases of poliomyelitis during the year.

Immunisation against tuberculosis by B.C.G. is offered to school leavers and is given in the schools.

## CLEANSING OF VERMINOUS PERSONS.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 85

#### *Lice.*

No treatments were given under this Section this year.

The bulk of the cases which might call for treatment is in school children with lice on their heads who are always treated informally by the school nurse.

There is an arrangement with the Borough of Bedford to treat general infestations at Barker's Lane, Bedford, at a cost of 30s. per treatment for adults and 17s. 6d. per treatment for children.

Modern treatment of scabies no longer necessitates cleansing under this Section.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925, and Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

No necessity for action under these regulations arose during the year under review.

## 13. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47).

It was unfortunately necessary to use this Section once during the year when a blind old lady who could not fend for herself had to be removed to Part III accommodation.



#### 4. FACTORIES.

*Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.*

### PART 1 OF THE ACT

—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	2	—	—	—
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	80	—	—	—
i) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority *(excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	24	—	—	—
Total .. ..	106	—	—	—

### —CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..	2	2			
Overcrowding (S.2.) .. ..	—				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.) ..	—				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—				
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	1	1			
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .	—				
Total ..	5	4		1	

### Part VIII of the Act.

### OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		Prosecutions
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	
Bearing apparel— Making, etc. ..	100	—	—	—	—	—

\* *i.e.*, Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1)), Institutions (Section 104), and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

